



**Washington State Auditor
Brian Sonntag**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS IN ACCORDANCE
WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

December 20, 2005

The Honorable Christine Gregoire
Governor, State of Washington

Dear Governor Gregoire:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate discretely presented component units and remaining fund information of the State of Washington as of and for the year ended June 30, 2005, and have issued our report thereon dated December 20, 2005. We did not audit the financial statements of the Department of Retirement Systems and the Local Government Investment Pool, which represent 12 percent and 49 percent, respectively of the assets and revenues/additions of the aggregate discretely presented component units and remaining fund information. Those financial statements were audited by other auditors whose reports have been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Department of Retirement Systems and the Local Government Investment Pool, is based upon their reports.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the State's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to

the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted certain matters that we have reported to the management of the State of Washington in separate letters issued at the state agency level.

COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the State's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of the State's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, the objective of our audit of the financial statements was not to provide an opinion on overall compliance with these provisions. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we noted certain matters that we have reported to the management of the State of Washington in separate letters issued at the state agency level.

This report is intended for the information and use of management of the State and federal awarding agencies. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. It also serves to disseminate information to the public as a reporting tool to help citizens assess government operations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Sonntag", with a stylized, flowing script.

BRIAN SONNTAG, CGFM

STATE AUDITOR